The award winning
Desert Outdoor Education
Center at Lake Pleasant

The Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant has received numerous accolades for both its educational and environmental programs.

Some of the awards received:

2003 - Governor's Pride in Arizona Award for Environmental Education

2002 - Crescordia President's Award for Environmental Excellence from the Valley Forward Association

2002 - The Cresordia Environmental Education and Communications Award from the Valley Forward Association

2001 - BSA - Eagle Scout Leadership Service Support Recognition

1998 - Outstanding Facility Award from the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association



THE DESERT OUTDOOR CENTER AT LAKE PLEASANT

There is no more beautiful or relaxing setting for a group event than the Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant. The cost for the use of the facility is more than reasonable, and your group will enjoy the exclusive use of the Center when it reserves it for a large event. Contact the Center for pricing information and availability.

602-372-7470

41402 N. 87th Avenue (Pleasant Harbor Blvd.) Peoria, AZ 85382 Peoria, AZ 85382

Fax: 602-372-7475

Email: www.maricopa.gov/parks/doc

The Desert
Outdoor Center
at Lake Pleasant

SPECIAL USE OPPORTUNITIES



Where nature lives right outside the classroom

MARICOPA COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT



The Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant



The Bradshaw Mountains viewed from the Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant

The Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant offers one of the most unique venue sites for a variety of activities.

This is an ideal location for weddings, corporate retreats, family reunions and other group functions.

Classrooms, a large multi-purpose room with stage, an amphitheater, gardens and overnight facilities for up to 150 people, are available for a wide range of activities.

The Center has a full service kitchen that will accommodate your group whether it is large or small.

Call the Center for pricing information, special use permit information, availability and tours.

Friends of the Desert Outdoor Center

In a general sense, the Friends is an advocacy group for the Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant. They greatly extend the reach and capabilities of the Center staff.

Membership in the organization offers a unique opportunity for involvement in education, marketing, fundraising and assistance in planning for the future of the Center. Specific areas of activity vary greatly and include, but are not limited to:

- Aiding in exhibit development
- Presenting programs and classes
- Staffing the gift shop
- Fundraising, sponsorship, development and partnering
- Assisting in operation of administration and reception area
- Long-term planning for the Center staffing
- Maintaining the Center
- Helping with publicity, special events and newsletters

For information on how to contact the Friends of the Desert Outdoor Center, call 602-372-7470

Volunteer Opportunities

The Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant always welcomes applications for year round and summertime Park Host positions. Park Hosts are volunteers who implement programs, perform clerical work and supervise overnight camps. Full training is provided for volunteers and the benefits include free RV spots with electricity, water and the use of a laundry facility. Stations are found in serene settings with recreational opportunities like hiking and fishing for outdoor enthusiasts.

There are also a number of volunteer positions to assist the full time staff with educational activities, planning and facility maintenance.

Community Service Project Opportunities

The Desert Outdoor Center provides scouting groups, school groups and youth organizations the opportunity to participate in community service projects. Through the Center, groups can offer their members an opportunity to fulfill service requirements in an interesting and educational setting. Some of the opportunities are:

- Desert Tortoise enclosure work
- Interpretive signage
- Trail maintenance and repair
- General cleaning
- Butterfly Garden upkeep
- Minor construction